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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/980,298	11/29/2001	David Lee Sandbach	9637-000034	1109
27572	7590	03/25/2005	EXAMINER	
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 828 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303			NGUYEN, CHAU N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2831	

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/980,298	Applicant(s) SANDBACH, DAVID LEE	
	Examiner Chau N. Nguyen	Art Unit 2831	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-23 and 25-37 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-23 and 25-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or
REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a). "Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)
- (e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-13, 15-23, and 25-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, last line, "conducting fibres" is unclear to how these conducting fibres relate to the conductive yarn recited earlier in the claim.

Claim 2, lines 1-2, "said conducting yarn" and "said non-conducting yarn" lack antecedent basis.

Claim 3, line 2, change "oF" to --of--.

Claim 3, lines 5-6, "conducting yarn" is unclear to how this relates to the conducting yarn of the first layer and second layer recited earlier in the claim.

Claim 3, lines 7-8, "the conducting first direction" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 4, lines 1-2, "said second conducting layers" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 5, lines 2-3, "the conducting direction of said second layer" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 7, lines 1-2, "said varying electrical characteristic" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 8, lines 1-2, "said varying electrical characteristic" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 13, line 1, "a potential" is unclear to how this relates to potentials already recited in claim 1.

Claim 13, lines 2-3, "the mechanical interaction" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 15, line 2, "an electrical conductor" is unclear to how this relates to "a respective electrical conductor" recited in claim 3.

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Claim 16, lines 3-5, "insulating weft", "conducting warp fibres", "conducting weft" and "insulating warp fibres" are unclear to how these relate to "conductive yarn" and "non-conductive yarn" recited in claim 1.

Claim 18, lines 2-3, "the insulating fibres" and "the conducting fibres" lack antecedent basis.

Claim 25, lines 10-11, "said conducting yarns" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 26, lines 5-6, "conducting yarn" is unclear to how this relates to the conducting yarn of the first layer and second layer recited earlier in the claim.

Claim 26, lines 7-8, "the conducting first direction" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 31, lines 3-5, "insulating weft", "conducting warp fibres", "conducting weft" and "insulating warp fibres" are unclear to how these relate to "conductive yarn" and "non-conductive yarn" recited in claim 25.

Claim 32, lines 1-3, the recitation of "said upper and lower portions are periodically attached by the inclusion of one of the insulating yarns **from either portion, in the other portion**" is unclear and causes confusion.

Claim 32, line 2, "the insulating yarns" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 35, line 11, "said conducting yarns" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 35, line 16, "said mechanical interaction" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 35, line 17, "a mechanical interaction" is unclear to how this relates to the mechanical interaction recited earlier in the claim.

Claim 36, line 16, "said conducting yarns" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 37, line 12, "said conducting yarns" lacks antecedent basis.

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Claims 6, 9-12, 17, 19-23, 27-30, 33 and 34 are included in this rejection because of dependency.

The above are but a few specific examples of indefinite and functional or operational language used throughout this claim, and are only intended to illustrate the extensive revision required to overcome the rejection under 35USC 112, second paragraph. The above mentioned corrections therefore, are in no way a complete and thorough listing of every indefinite and functional or operational language used throughout this claim. Applicant is required to revise all of the claim completely, and not just correct the indefinite and functional or operational languages mentioned.

No rejection based on prior art is given at this point of prosecution. MPEP 2173.06 states:

"...where there is a great deal of confusion and uncertainty as to the proper interpretation of the limitations of a claim, it would not be proper to reject such a claim on the basis of prior art. As stated in In re Steele, 305 F.2d 859, 134 USPQ 292 (CCPA 1962), a rejection under 35 USC 103 should not be based on considerable speculation about the meaning of terms employed in a claim or assumptions that must be made as to the scope of the claims."

Given the great arrangement of confusion and uncertainty as to the proper interpretation of the limitations of claims, it would not be proper to reject claims 1-13, 15-23, and 25-37 on the basis of prior art.

Communication

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1980. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Chau N Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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